

THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

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LAWRENCE K. WHITE, (O-19241), Colonel, Infantry, United States Army, FOR EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM in action at Luzon, Philippine Islands, from the 2nd to the 15th of February 1945.

Colonel White commanded the 148th Infantry Regiment advancing toward Manila. Early in February when an attack was temporarily halted by determined enemy resistance near Plaridel he immediately took a position with his assault elements, and when a Platoon Leader was killed assumed personal command of the Platoon. Spurred by his example, his Regiment pressed the attack, reduced enemy resistance and entered the city. While he was directing a crossing of the Pasig River in Manila an enemy artillery bombardment was concentrated on the area surrounding his observation post. Ordering his subordinate to take cover in the bomb shelter, Colonel White remained at his position, and, by radio, calmly directed the river crossing. A week later, when unable to effect communication with one of his Battalions during an engagement, he went forward under heavy fire from enemy machine guns, made a personal reconnaissance and returned to his headquarters with valuable intelligence. Colonel White's gallant leadership, complete disregard for danger and indomitable fighting spirit were clearly reflected in his Regiment's success in the operations on Luzon.

General Orders Number 125

31 May 1945

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW